

Success Story



Marshalltown High School and BR Miller Middle School (Marshalltown CSD) Water Equipment Helps Create Supportive Nutrition Environment 2014-15 School Year

Summary

Marshalltown High School and Marshalltown BR Miller Middle School used grant funds to support improvements to water access at both buildings. The district purchased a unit for each building, an Elkay station and refrigerated water cooler combination. The stations will be installed when school is out for the summer.

At Miller Middle School, the new water stations will be located adjacent to the auditorium in a high traffic area for both students and staff. The station purchased the previous school year was installed near the main gymnasium and close to the door on the way to the athletic practice fields so that students, athletes and staff could all use it on the way out the door.

At Marshalltown High School the new water station will be located on the second floor in a high traffic area for both students and staff. The station purchased the previous year was installed closer to the cafeteria, a hub for student activity.

Success Strategies

Marshalltown High School and Marshalltown BR Miller Middle School will benefit from the addition of the water bottle filling stations as they will speed up the process for students filling their water bottle throughout the day. Keeping students hydrated will help them feel better and perform better during the day. Having attractive, new, working equipment shows the students and staff that drinking water is important and encouraged.



Challenges

The biggest challenge was for the maintenance staff to find time to install the drinking fountains when students were not in the buildings. The administration did not want the water turned off while students were in the buildings so installation was scheduled for the summer of 2015.

Results

Kayleen Schwatzenburg, HS staff: "I fill up every day and like how it tells how many bottles we save. Our current total is 20,467!"

Carol Crawford, HS staff, sees students/staff using the filling station every hour of every day and the kids really like it. "It gets used more than the regular drinking fountain which is also located in the cafeteria. The most usage happens between classes, students pass through and fill up."

The students at BR Miller Middle School say they really like being able to fill up their water bottles, especially on days they are preparing to run the PACER! Having a water bottle and easy access to fill it helps them stay hydrated throughout the day and ensures they are better physically prepared for class and for track practice at 3:30.

Many anecdotal reports state that more students are seen drinking more water and more staff are allowing and encouraging the use of water bottles in the classrooms.



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Future Directions

Marshalltown High School and Marshalltown BR Miller Middle School plan to continue promoting health and wellness throughout the school district. Nutritious school meals, quality PE, water promotion and physical activity promotion are all areas to be further developed.

Grant Information

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